



The United Nations Headquarters complex in New York was constructed from 1949-1952. The landmark building is seen all over the world as a symbol of the United Nations itself, and it is a rare example of the international style architecture of the 1950s.

The Capital Master Plan (CMP) is the six-year renovation project to bring the UN compound into the twenty-first century, and will result in safer, more modern, and more energy-efficient Headquarters complex for delegates, staff and visitors.

Following the project’s authorization by the General Assembly, the CMP formally commenced in May 2008 when construction began of a temporary building on the Headquarters’ North Lawn. The new building, referred to as the North Lawn Building, was inaugurated in January 2010. During the current renovation of the Conference Building, it provides meeting room space. It also houses the Executive Office of the Secretary-General while the Secretariat Building is being renovated.



In order to meet the office space requirements of the Organization during the renovation, the leasing and fit-out of off-site swing space was required.

From early 2009 to early 2010, approximately 6,000 staff were relocated to leased offices in mid-town Manhattan and Long Island City, Queens. Space within the Headquarters’ basements was also reconfigured to provide temporary space for offices and other functions. Staff is scheduled to return to the renovated Secretariat Building in the second half of 2012.



After the completion of the Conference Building, anticipated for the end of 2012, the North Lawn Building will be reconfigured to house the functions of the General Assembly Building, which will be renovated in 2013-2014.

The North Lawn building is scheduled to be dismantled at the end of the project, and the lawn will be restored to the original state as developed by the architects who designed the Headquarters in 1947.

The CMP is on-track for completion in 2014. Its anticipated final cost is \$2.15 billion.

## Procurement

The General Assembly has requested that the United Nations explore innovative ways to promote procurement opportunities for vendors from developing countries and countries with economies in transition. The Office of the CMP issues notices to the missions of Member States informing them of significant upcoming procurement opportunities, and both the UN and its construction manager maintain websites which provide information for all potential bidders. Procurement of materials and trades for the project are undertaken through the award of subcontracts by the UN's construction manager, Skanska USA Building, a subsidiary of the Swedish construction firm Skanska AB.

## Sustainability

The CMP will incorporate many new technologies to improve environmental performance in key areas such as energy consumption, reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, reduction of water consumption, enhancement of indoor environmental quality, use of sustainable materials, and careful and appropriate waste management.

Substantial improvements will be made to the heating, ventilating and air conditioning systems. New high-efficiency lamps and ballasts, and occupancy sensors will automatically control all lighting. A daylight harvesting system will respond to natural light levels. All of these steps will help to reduce energy consumption by over 50%, as compared to existing conditions. Low-flow toilets and lavatories as well as a rainwater harvesting system will help to reduce fresh water consumption by over 40%.

The CMP will result in a 45% reduction in the UN's carbon footprint, as CO<sub>2</sub> emissions will be reduced by over 23,000 tons per year.



## Donations

Wishing to support the CMP beyond their assessed contributions to its budget, China, Denmark, the Netherlands, Russia and Turkey each adopted spaces from a list compiled by the CMP and made donations or additional contributions of altogether almost \$10 million for their renovation.

Reflecting heightened security concerns, the Host Country is funding additional security upgrades in the form of a non-assessed contribution of \$100 million for the UN Headquarters beyond the security improvements already included in the CMP.

More information on the CMP is available on the website [www.un.org/cmp](http://www.un.org/cmp). For additional questions or information, please contact the CMP's Public Information Officer, Mr. Werner Schmidt, at 917-367-5420 or at [schmidtw@un.org](mailto:schmidtw@un.org).